GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4066
ANSWERED ON:20.04.2005
SAFE LOADING/UNLOADING AT ANCHORAGE PORTS
Rathod Shri Harisingh Nasaru

Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent oil spillage in Goa following a collision between an iron ore carrier and a barge at Panaji Port has raised concerns over the increasing barge operations in Indian Ports without adequate safety measures;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the safety measures taken by the Government to prevent such incidents;

(c) whether the Government has any proposal to bring some strictures to ensure safe loading and unloading at the anchorage ports; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d): Movement of barges in the ports other than major ports is controlled and regulated by the respective State Governments. As far as major ports are concerned, the barges are inspected by the designated port authority for safe manning and condition of equipments. The Masters are required to have adequate qualifications. The barges are also required to have adequate communication equipments. The subject matter of safety measures in operation of barges is under active consideration of the Directorate General of Shipping. These measures are aimed at enhancing safety in the operation of barges.